(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Bangla Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) A list of 86 Indian insurgents arrested by Bangladesh security agencies and police over various periods of time was handed over to DG Bangladesh Rifles during the Director General Level Talks held between DG BSF and DG BDR on 28th Oct.-2nd Nov., 2002. DG BDR reiterated the assurance of Government of Bangladesh that it would not allow its territory to be used for anti-Indian activities. Government of India continues to engage Government of Bangladesh towards a resolution of this problem.

Purchase of Jinnah House

1000. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to buy M.A. Jinnah's House in UK as reported in the 'Asian Age' dated the 20th December, 2002; and

(b) if so, the purpose behind spending a lot of amount on this when Pak has declined to come forward?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Samadhi of Prithviraj Chauhan

1001. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the difficulties being faced in bringing the 'Samadhi' of the last Hindu King Prithviraj Chauhan to India which is lying neglected in Afghanistan;

(b) whether Government have made any efforts to bring the 'Samadhi' to India after reports of its desecration during the Taliban regime; and

(c) if not, whether Government are holding or propose to hold any talks in this regard with the present Afghan Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) There is no evidence available with the Ministry of External Affairs which could establish that the mortal remains of King Prithviraj Chauhan are buried in Afghanistan.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Question does not arise.

Problems faced by Indian workers in Riyadh

1002. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the adverse circumstances in which scores of Indian workers of an engineering firm in Riyadh have been living due to non-receipt of their salaries, their visas having been expired and their passports in possession of their employers, as reported in the Hindu dated the 17th January, 2003;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken through Indian Embassy in Saudi Arabia to get enforced the local Labour Court judgement delivered in favour of workers; and

(c) what are the standing guidelines for the Embassies abroad in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian Embassy in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, was informed in July, 2002 by Indian nationals working in M/s Omar A Bin Bisher & Partners Co. Ltd., Riyadh, that they had filed a case in the Labour Court to recover arrears of their salaries and other service benefits. The Embassy provided all assistance in this connection. The Court ruled in favour of the workers in October, 2002. As the company has not yet implemented the verdict, the Embassy has taken up the matter with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia.